

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI**

In the Matter of the Application for Approval	)	
of an Amendment to the Interconnection	)	
Agreement between Covad Communications	)	<b><u>Case No. TO-2006-0216</u></b>
Company and Southwestern Bell Telephone,	)	
L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri	)	

**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT**  
**TO INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

Issue Date: January 13, 2006

Effective Date: January 23, 2006

This order approves the Amendment to Interconnection Agreement executed by the parties and filed by Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri.

On November 22, 2005, SBC Missouri filed an application with the Commission for approval of an amendment to its interconnection agreement with Covad Communications Company. The amendment was filed pursuant to Section 252(e)(1) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.<sup>1</sup> The Agreement is amended by deleting certain provisions from the parties' 13-State Amendment and revising other provisions. Both SBC Missouri and Covad hold certificates of service authority to provide local exchange telecommunications services in Missouri.

Although Covad is a party to the Agreement, it did not join in the application. On December 5, 2005, the Commission issued an order making Covad a party in this case and

---

<sup>1</sup> See 47 U.S.C. § 251, *et seq.*

directing any party wishing to request a hearing to do so no later than December 27, 2005. No requests for hearing were filed.

Under Section 252(e) of the Act, any interconnection agreement adopted by negotiation must be submitted to the Commission for approval. The Commission may reject an agreement if it finds that the agreement is discriminatory or that it is not consistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

The Staff of the Commission filed a memorandum and recommendation on January 4, 2006, recommending that the Amendment to the Agreement be approved. The Staff memorandum recommends that the amendments be approved and notes that the Agreement meets the limited requirements of the Act in that it is not discriminatory toward nonparties and is not against the public interest. Staff recommends that the Commission direct the parties to submit any further amendments to the Commission for approval.

### **Findings of Fact**

The Missouri Public Service Commission, having considered all of the competent and substantial evidence upon the whole record, makes the following findings of fact.

The Commission has considered the application, the supporting documentation, and Staff's recommendation. Based upon that review, the Commission concludes that the Agreement meets the requirements of the Act in that it does not discriminate against a nonparty carrier and implementation of the Agreement is not inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity. The Commission finds that approval of the Agreement shall be conditioned upon the parties submitting any further amendments to the Commission for approval pursuant to the procedure set out below.

### **Amendment Procedure**

The Commission has a duty to review all resale and interconnection agreements, whether arrived at through negotiation or arbitration, as mandated by the Act.<sup>2</sup> In order for the Commission's role of review and approval to be effective, the Commission must also review and approve or recognize amendments to these agreements. The Commission has a further duty to make a copy of every resale and interconnection agreement available for public inspection.<sup>3</sup> This duty is in keeping with the Commission's practice under its own rules of requiring telecommunications companies to keep their rate schedules on file with the Commission.<sup>4</sup>

The parties to each resale or interconnection agreement must maintain a complete and current copy of the agreement, together with all amendments, in the Commission's offices. Any proposed amendment must be submitted pursuant to Commission rule 4 CSR 240-3.513(6).

### **Conclusions of Law**

The Missouri Public Service Commission has arrived at the following conclusions of law.

The Commission, under the provisions of Section 252(e)(1) of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996,<sup>5</sup> is required to review negotiated interconnection agreements. It may only reject a negotiated agreement upon a finding that its

---

<sup>2</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252.

<sup>3</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252(h).

<sup>4</sup> 4 CSR 240-3.545.

<sup>5</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(1).

implementation would be discriminatory to a nonparty or inconsistent with the public interest, convenience and necessity.<sup>6</sup> Based upon its review of the Agreement between SBC Missouri and Covad and its findings of fact, the Commission concludes that the Agreement is neither discriminatory nor inconsistent with the public interest and shall be approved.

The Commission notes that prior to providing telecommunications services in Missouri, a party shall possess the following: (1) an interconnection agreement approved by the Commission; (2) except for wireless providers, a certificate of service authority from the Commission to provide interexchange or basic local telecommunications services; and (3) except for wireless providers, a tariff approved by the Commission.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. That the Amendment to Interconnection Agreement between Southwestern Bell Telephone, L.P., d/b/a SBC Missouri, and Covad Communications Company, filed on November 22, 2005, is approved.
2. That any changes or amendments to this Agreement shall be submitted in compliance with 4 CSR 240-3.513(6).
3. That this order shall become effective on January 23, 2006.

---

<sup>6</sup> 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A).

4. That this case may be closed on January 24, 2006.

**BY THE COMMISSION**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen M. Dale', written over a horizontal line.

Colleen M. Dale  
Secretary

( S E A L )

Nancy Dippell, Deputy Chief Regulatory Law  
Judge, by delegation of authority pursuant  
to Section 386.240, RSMo 2000.

Dated at Jefferson City, Missouri,  
on this 13th day of January, 2006.